

AMENDMENT

Listing of Claims

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-20 are cancelled by this preliminary amendment.

21. (New) A system for generating a device user interface executable by an information handling system, comprising:

a processor for executing instructions on the information handling system and a memory coupled to said processor for storing instructions for execution by said processor;

a device database including listing available user interface components for implementing control functions of a device coupled to the information handling system;

a resource database including the user interface components, wherein at least one of the user interface components is an object, said resource database being stored separately from the device database;

a user interface generator for determining whether the device is included in said device database and for retrieving the user interface components for that device from said resource database without requiring user intervention; and

a layout manager for assembling the user interface components retrieved by said user interface generator into a user interface executable by the information handling system to control the device.

22. (New) A system as claimed in claim 21, wherein the device is a multimedia device controlled by the information handling system.

23. (New) A system as claimed in claim 21, wherein said device database is created without requiring user intervention.

24. (New) A system as claimed in claim 21, wherein said resource database is created without requiring user intervention.

25. (New) A system as claimed in claim 21, wherein the user interface components of said resource database comprise a plurality of objects.

26. (New) A system for generating a device user interface executable by an information handling system, comprising:

means for executing instructions on the information handling system and means, coupled to said executing means, for storing instructions for execution by said processor;

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means for listing available means for implementing control functions of a device coupled to the information handling system;

means for storing the implementing means, wherein at least one of the implementing means is an object, said storing means being separate from the listing means;

means for determining whether the device is included in said listing means, and for retrieving the implementing means from said implementing means storage means, said determining means being capable of operating without user intervention; and

means for assembling the implementing means retrieved by said determining means into a user interface executable by the information handling system to control the device.

27. (New) A system as claimed in claim 26, wherein the device is a multimedia device controlled by the information handling system.

28. (New) A system as claimed in claim 26, wherein said device list storing means is created without requiring user intervention.

29. (New) A system as claimed in claim 26, wherein said implementing means storing means is created without requiring user intervention.

30. (New) A system as claimed in claim 26, wherein the implementing means comprises a plurality of objects.

31. (New) A computer implemented method for generating a device user interface for an information handling system, comprising:

identifying a device coupled to the information handling system to be controlled by the user interface;

comparing the identified device to a database of devices which includes a listing of interface resource components available for implementing the functions of the device and determining whether the device is listed in the database of devices, wherein at least one of the user interface resource components is an object;

retrieving user interface components from a database of interface components stored separately from the database of devices, the user interface components for implementing functions of the device; and

creating the user interface from the user interface components.

32. (New) A method as claimed in claim 31, further comprising the steps of, in the event the device is not listed in the database of devices, determining whether a similar device similar to the device is listed in the database of devices; in the event a similar device is not listed in the database of devices, executing a generic device user interface component retrieving step; otherwise, executing said device specific user interface components retrieving step.

33. (New) A method as claimed in claim 31, further comprising the step of displaying the user interface on a display coupled to the information handling system such that a user may control the device with the user interface.

34. (New) A method as claimed in claim 31, said creating step being implemented automatically.

35. (New) A method as claimed in claim 31, the user interface resource components comprising a plurality of objects.

36. (New) A computer implemented program of instructions stored on a computer readable medium and executable by an information handling system, the contents of the program of instructions causing an information handling system to execute steps for generating a device user interface for the information handling system, the steps comprising:

identifying the device coupled to the information handling system to be controlled by the user interface;

comparing the identified device to a database of devices which includes a listing of interface resource components available for implementing the functions of the device and determining whether the device is listed in the database of devices, wherein at least one of the user interface resource components is an object;

retrieving user interface components from a database of interface components stored separately from the database of devices, the user interface components for implementing functions of the device; and

creating the user interface from the assembled user interface components.

37. (New) A program of instructions as claimed in claim 36, further comprising the steps of, in the event the device is not listed in the database of devices, determining whether a similar device similar to the device is listed in the database of devices; in the event a similar device is not listed in the database of devices, executing a generic device user interface component retrieving step; otherwise, executing said device specific user interface components retrieving step.

38. (New) A program of instructions as claimed in claim 36, the steps further comprising the step of displaying the user interface on a display coupled to the information handling system such that a user may control the device with the user interface.

39. (New) A program of instructions as claimed in claim 36, said assembling step being implemented automatically.

Appl. No. 09/238,375

Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR AUTOMATICALLY GENERATING A DEVICE USER
INTERFACE

40. (New) A program of instructions as claimed in claim 36, the user interface
components comprising a plurality of discrete objects.
